Department of Biology University of Rochester Rochester, New York December 12, 1955

Dr. Joshua Lederberg Department of Genetics University of Wisconsin Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederberg,

As a graduate student studying transformation of Pneumococcus under Dr. Ravin, I have become interested in the possibility of transforming other bacteria, particularly <u>E. coli</u>, K-12. I have a procedure outlined which should detect mutants to transformability, if such occur, even at relatively low rates. The system requires the use of a polygenic quantitative resistance to a selector. If the Cavelli-Maccacaro observations on the quantitative character of chloromycetin (chloramphenicol) resistance are correct, this would be an ideal selector to use. For this purpose I would like to obtain a strain of K-12 resistant to chloramphenicol at concentrations of 640-1280 micrograms/ml. If you have such a strain available I would greatly appreciate obtaining it.

Sincerely,

Donald M. Green

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